DEVELOPMENT (1948) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 4633

Dated 11-9-1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

AGRICULTURE ; SOIL CONSERVATION AND LAND UTILISATION ; VISIT OF EXPERTS TO MADRAS PROVINCE : PAPERS RECORDED.

No. 8214-F/48
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Agriculture.
New Delhi, the 10th August 1948.

From

B,R. Sen, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Agriculture, NEW DELHI.

To

The Provincial Governments

Subject: SOIL CONSERVATION AND LAND UTILISATION.

Sir,

I have to address you on a subject which is of fundamental importance to our national economy but has not received till very recently the attention that it deserves, owing to the nature of the problem, of either the Central or Provincial Governments. The enormous amount of damage that is taking place thourgh soil erosion is well known. The proper conservation of rainfall for the purpose of crop growth and the proper use of land for increase in production are other aspects of this problem. So far very little work has been done on any of these aspects of soil conservation barring a few notable exceptions in the Punjab, Bombay and the United Provinces.

The report of the Policy Committee on Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries of the Reconstruction Committee of the Council of the Government of India (1945), recommended an integrated Land Utilisation Programme. In the same year the Government of India obtained the services of Dr. Donald V. Shuhart of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture to report on soil erosion problems in India.

The problem of conservation of soil needs a combined attack on all its important aspects in an integrated manner. The country that leads the world today in the application of this science is the United States of America. Conservation practices are making rapid progress among American farmers and the productivity of the land where conservation practices are adopted is reported to have gone up by 25 to 30 per cent.

In May 1947 the Government of India deputed a team of scientists for making an exhaustive study of soil conservation practices in the United States of America for one year. The team consisted of two soil scientists an agronomist, an agricultural engineer and forest officer. They have now returned and have been placed on special duty. The names of these officers are given below:-

1. Gandhy Darab, M.A.,(Agr.Eng).,B.Sc.(Eng).,B.Es.(Ag)., Agricultural Engineering.
2. Kaith, D.C., B.Sc. (Edin) - Forestry.
3. Kalamkar, R.J., B.Sc.,B.Ag.,Ph.D.(Lond) F.A.Sc. - Agronomy
4. Rayachaudhuri, S.P., Ph.D.,(Lond) D.Sc.,(Cal & London), F.R.I.C., - Soil Scientist
5. Sen A.T., M.Sc., Ph.D. (Lond), A.R.I.C., A.I.A.R.I - Soil Scientist.

The Government of India have decided to send out these officers to different Provinces and States to contact the respective Governments for the purpose of,

(1) Informing the Provincial Gov and State authorities the availability of technical advice and help from the Centre on soil conservation work,

(2) Discussing the manner in which plans of soil conservation may be drawn up in the Provinces in relation to the Centre,

(3) Discussing the possibility of co-ordination of the activities of all agencies in a Province or State dealing with different aspects of soil conservation.

(4) Considering the possibility of training of agricultural personnel for soil conservation work,

(5) Considering the institution of training courses in soil conservation in the Provincial/State Agricultural Colleges, Schools and training centres and also in Forest Training Schools and Colleges

(6) Considering the desirability of starting soil conservation research in the Provincial and State Research Institutions and Experimental Farms.

(7) Selecting areas for starting Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation work in the Provinces and States and

(8) Visiting the soil conservation work in progress, if any.

Their tour programme will be sent in due course.

I am to request that these officers be provided with necessary facilities for making contacts with the appropriate officers of the Provincial Government and to visist and study the problem areas within their jurisdiction. It will also be appreciated, if the Honourable Minister in charge makes it convenient to meet these officers, and have a general discussion of this problem with them.

Yours faithfully,

(sd)
B.R. SEN
Secretary to the Government of India

TOUR PROGRAMME OF OFFICERS ON SPECIAL DUTY IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, NEW DELHI.

Departure.			Arrival.		
Place	Date	Time	Place	Date	Time
Howrah	27-8-48	17:54 Hrs	Madras	29-8-48	10:20 hrs.
Tour in Madras Province from 30-8-48 to 7-9-1948.					
Madras	8-9-1948	07:25 hrs.	Bangalore	8-9-1948	20:10 hrs.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Development Department.

Memorandum No. 89821-P.&.D.II/48.4 dated 26th August 1948.

Sub: SOIL CONSERVATION AND LAND UTILISATION - Tour of experts - Chief Conservator of Forests and Director of Agriculture permitted to accompany.

The Chief Conservator of Forests and the Director of Agriculture are permitted to accompany the Soil Conservation Experts during their tour in the Madras Province from the 29th August to the 8th September 1948.

K.G. MENON
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Conservator of Forests.
~~Copy~~ To the Director of Agriculture.
Copy to the Accountant-General.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

The file deals with the visist to this Province of the Soil Conservation Experts of the Government of India. The experts have left this Province after touring here for about a week.

According to the Government of India's D.O. letter at p.1 c.f. these experts, after they complete their tour in the Provinces and States, will draw up plans and programmes for the various parts of the country. It seems most probable that these experts will submit a report on their inspections in this Province. It has been ordered at "M" on page 7 above that the question of asking the Government of India to lend the services of one of these experts for final studies and formulation of plans, may be considered after their inpsection report is received.

These papers may perhaps be recorded at this G.O. stage with a Call Book Entry against 1-1-1949 for reminidng the Government of India, if necessary, for their inspection report.

For orders.

xx/9.9.48

K.G.M(enon)/11.9.48
Joint Secretary.

G.O. (Ms) No. 4633 Dev. dated 11th September 1948.

Abstract

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AGRICULTURE - Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation - Visist of experts to Madras Province - Papers recorded.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office, Egmore.

9/9.

Sk. 29/7